

evaluate carefully either FDA's priorities or the human cost of regulatory delays. Consequently, we've lacked effective congressional oversight on FDA. Without oversight, rational policy perishes, deceit flourishes and demagoguery can triumph.

Enter David A. Kessler, FDA's answer to J. Edgar Hoover. Kessler's FDA boldly sets its own priorities. It does not shrink from half-truths or scare tactics. It pursues retaliation and selective enforcement without remorse. It has made drug safety and efficacy testing a worse bargain than the Pentagon's \$600 toilet seats. Fortunately, recent House and Senate hearings indicate that FDA abuses are finally arousing congressional watchdogs.

Congress should no longer tolerate the FDA's perversion of its mission. To prevent a few mistaken approvals, FDA sacrifices countless patients to approval delay, slows the pace of medical progress and drives health-care costs through the roof and jobs out of the country. It's time for Congress to put patients above bureaucrats and hold the FDA strictly accountable for the human cost of regulatory delays.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEFENSE REUTILIZATION AND MARKETING SERVICE

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exemplary efforts of the employees of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service [DRMS] based at the Federal Center in Battle Creek, MI.

In the last several years DRMS has vastly improved the efficiency of its operations, which involve the reuse and sale of military surplus goods. In the 1994 fiscal year, DRMS increased its revenues by 85 percent and its profits by 116 percent while cutting its costs by 4 percent. These improvements have continued into the 1995 fiscal year. In fact, the Michigan legislature recognized and commended the achievements of DRMS in a resolution passed on May 31, 1995.

This week, a provision of H.R. 1530 proposed the total privatization of DRMS, ignoring the progress it has made. This provision also ignored the ongoing selective privatization program at DRMS and the opinion of DRMS and the Defense Logistics Agency [DLA] that total privatization is not feasible. Fortunately, with the help of many fine people connected with DRMS, we were able to remove this provision.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank some of those who took leading roles in the effort to amend H.R. 1530. I like to thank the leaders of DRMS and DLA, navy Captain Hempson [DRMS] and Admiral Straw [DLA]. I also want to express my appreciation for the support of Dan McGinty, DLA's Congressional Liaison.

I want to thank the employees of DRMS both for the excellent work they have done and their efforts to change H.R. 1530. In particular, I would like to recognize the efforts of Gary Redditt and Angie Disher, the union representatives at DRMS.

Once more, let me say once more to DRMS and its employees, job well done.

PHYSICIST, DR. EARL F. SKELTON,
HONORED

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Earl F. Skelton, of Washington, DC, a physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory was awarded an NRL-Edison Chapter Sigma Xi Award in Pure Science at a ceremony on June 8, 1995.

Dr. Earl F. Skelton of the Condensed Matter and Radiation Science Division is the author of one of two winning papers in pure science, "Direct Observation of Microscopic Inhomogeneities With Energy-Dispersive Diffraction of Synchrotron Product X-rays." In this paper, also winner of the 1995 NRL Alan Berman Annual Research Publication Award, Dr. Skelton develops fundamental high-pressure research on various superconducting materials using a synchrotron beamline and significantly improves the x-ray diffraction detection limit.

This is the first example of directly detecting structural variations over a spatial scale of 10 micrometers. The existence of such structural inhomogeneities brings into question whether exotic experimental results obtained from high-temperature superconducting material actually reflect their intrinsic properties.

Dr. Skelton, a research physicist with a Ph.D in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, has published over 200 research papers in technical journals and won several scientific publication awards. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society and a professor in the School of Engineering and Applied Science at George Washington University.

Each year at the NRL-Edison Chapter of Sigma Xi presents awards to outstanding NRL scientists judged to have made distinguished contributions to pure and applied science during their research NRL. These awards are in keeping with the objective of the chapter to encourage investigation in pure and applied science and to promote the spirit of scientific research at the Naval Research Laboratory.

I know that each Member of this body joins me in congratulating Dr. Skelton on his truly outstanding achievement.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ACT OF 1995

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, every schoolday in our country approximately 418,000 schoolbuses carry 24 million schoolchildren to and from school and school-sponsored activities covering 4.5 billion miles. Schoolbus safety is an issue that certainly deserves the attention of the American people and the Congress. Between 1988 and 1993 approximately 400 people were killed, and 67,900 people were injured, as a result of schoolbus accidents. In my State of Ohio, there were 475 people—426 of them students—injured in schoolbus accidents in the 1992-93 school year.

Without question the schoolbus is the safest mode of transportation on America's roads today. My goal is to improve on existing tech-

nologies to maximize safety. Today, Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill to do just that. The School Bus Safety Act does a number of things that will ensure the safe travel of our most valuable resources: our children.

My bill directs the U.S. Department of Transportation to set national proficiency standards for schoolbus drivers. It also directs the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to develop guidelines on the safe transportation in schoolbuses of children under the age of 5. Currently, today's buses are designed to transport and provide maximum safety for children above the age of 6. It would apply the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations [FMCSR] to interstate schoolbus operations. Presently, schoolbuses owned and operated by school districts, regardless of the type of operation involved, are not covered by FMCSR because the school districts are exempt governmental entities. My bill mandates a national criminal history background check system to enable local education agencies, or contractors, to check the criminal background of any person they are considering for employment as bus drivers. In addition, the bill calls for the establishment of construction, design, and securement standards for wheelchairs used in schoolbuses. Finally, my bill directs the DOT study the usage of seat belts on schoolbuses, the extent to which public transit vehicles are engaged in schoolbus operations, and the contracting out of schoolbus operations.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I have long championed Federal measures to promote transportation safety. My bill jets forth a reasonable plan for improving schoolbus safety and safeguarding the lives of schoolchildren. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents, Thomas J. Boulet, sent me a poem "Remembering" which honors the service of the men and women who have served their country in the Armed Forces. I think this poem gives all of us an opportunity to reflect on their sacrifice and valor.

REMEMBERING

(By Thomas J. Boulet, September 10, 1980)

Yes, the poppies still blow in Flanders Field
But over here, who still cares—?
People have forgotten Wars I and II
That made Veterans of men so true.

For God and Country—they did their duties
Against high odds—they went forward:
Striving, fighting men—now forgotten
They gave their all, let them rest—Their battles done.

Today, we here, must say a Prayer
To remember the "Peace of the Dead"
Hoping that our Prayers are not in vain
That while this World lasts—no war again.
The "Torch" that was cast to us living
Must be "Held up high"—or die;
"Tis our time now to push and strive
For Peace; then we can hold that torch up high.

We must not forget what war can do,
A shattered family—of men so true;
Helping the helpless that did come back,
To work on in life with a joyous knack.

LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE A
LAND TRANSFER BY THE CLINT
AND FABENS INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce that I am introducing legislation to remove from existing Federal law an obstacle which prevents two school districts from making important decisions regarding land which they were granted by the Federal Government 38 years ago. Through minor changes in existing legislation, this Congress can give the Fabens and Clint independent school districts the power to determine how to make the most effective use of land they have been capably utilizing for almost four decades.

Since 1957, Clint and Fabens independent school districts in Texas have used federally bestowed land to enhance their agricultural and vocational curriculum. Placing an educational farm on land which the Federal Government had previously ignored for 23 years, the Clint school district has been able to add another dimension to their educational programming, and teach valuable skills to their students.

Over the years, however, getting students to the educational farm has grown increasingly problematic. Located 2 miles beyond the outermost boundaries of the Clint independent school district, school officials and teachers must daily confront the difficulties and dangers of getting students safely from Clint schools to a farm which now lies in another district. Students and teachers must hope that a considerable trip through busy streets will not tragically alter the progress these students are making. It would make sense, some argue, for Clint to sell the land and use the proceeds to enhance its other vocational and technological programs. Unfortunately, such a sensible course of action is not allowed by current law.

As existing law is written, the ability of the school districts to make decisions in regard to that land have been bracketed by a reversionary clause in the law. This clause states that any attempt to dispose of the land would result in making the land property of the Federal Government once again. Clinton and Fabens are, therefore, confined by a 38-year-old strait-jacket. They can either keep the land no matter how greatly local circumstances change, or they can surrender it to the Government and leave their students with even fewer vocational resources than they currently possess.

At a time when we are all appreciating the complexities and virtues of a Federal system that gives localities important decisionmaking powers, I am confident that most of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle understand the importance of letting school districts decide how to best utilize property that has been under their supervision for close to 40 years.

Therefore, today I am introducing legislation which would waive the reversionary right stipulated in Public Law 85-42, and untie the

hands of Fabens and Clint. Passage of this legislation would signal that this Congress is capable of recognizing instances when we can help our schools and students by intelligently scaling back the reach of the Federal Government.

Before the 85th Congress granted these districts the right to use this land, the Federal Government said for 23 years that it would soon build something on the land. After those two decades of inactivity, Clint, Fabens, and the Congress finally realized that the people of the community could make better use of the land than the Federal Government had. I urge my colleagues not to return to those years of inactivity and require the land to disappear into the labyrinthian maze of Federal bureaucracy.

Waiving the reversionary right is a simple and straightforward way to help the young people in my district in Texas. The language in the proposed legislation is narrowly tailored to ensure that any proceeds which come from any sale of land go to improving the education of students in two school districts. Moreover, by passing this bill, Congress can demonstrate that empowering localities is not a blind leap of faith, but a definite process which requires the Members of this body to be sensitive to local realities and local solutions. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

THE CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN:
OUR COMMUNITY AT ITS BEST

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, year after year, the WHAS Crusade for Children shows us what a community working together can achieve. The crusade did it again this past weekend.

Rick Larkins, the chief of the Highview Fire Department, summed up the crusade when he said, "We're like a collection point for the goodness of everyone in Jefferson County."

The Crusade for Children has collected that goodness for 42 years. I know of no other cause which, year in and year out, brings together so many volunteers, working long hours, to truly make a community statement that we will stand behind children and families with special needs.

The volunteer fire departments of my community have made the crusade their cause. In doing so, they have given all of us a concrete example that a real community is people helping people.

My thanks and commendations go to the men and women of WHAS, the volunteer firefighters, the churches, the veterans' groups, and so many individuals who give their time and energy to this annual endeavor to help children.

I'm proud to represent in the U.S. Congress a community which really cares about people, and the Crusade for Children is one of the best statements of our caring.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
BELVIDERE AMBULANCE CORPS
INC.

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Belvidere Ambulance Corps Inc. on the 50th anniversary of its dedicated service to the people of Belvidere, NJ. I am certain you realize how difficult it is to find people who are willing to invest their time and energy to become an emergency medical technician, answer calls at all hours of the day and night, and keep up with the continuing education required for this skill. Yet the men and women of the Belvidere Ambulance Corps have accepted this challenge and perform their arduous duties gladly. They truly care about the fellow members of their community.

The history of the Belvidere Ambulance Corps is one that began with a sad, unfortunate, and avoidable tragedy. On June 28, 1945, Belvidere merchant Matthew Hains was pushing his stalled car when he became pinned between the door and a utility pole and was seriously injured. A local doctor rushed to the scene and immediately called for an ambulance, but it took more than an hour for one to arrive from out of town. Mr. Hains made it 15 miles to the Easton [Pennsylvania] Hospital but died 2 days later. Belvidere had lost one of its most valued young citizens for lack of an ambulance.

The citizens of Belvidere responded swiftly. On July 2, 1945—only 4 days after the accident—the mayor appointed an ambulance fund committee and an ambulance was shortly in service. Over the years, the ambulance service has grown considerably, gaining its own building in 1946, a crash truck and boat in 1963, a jaws-of-life tool in 1976, Med-Evac helicopter flights in 1983 and 911 emergency calling in 1994.

Since that fateful day in 1945, the Belvidere Ambulance Corps has answered roughly 27,000 calls, an average of 11 a week, put in more than 115,000 person hours, an average of 45 hours a week, and put nearly 700,000 miles on its vehicles—the equivalent of crossing the United States 224 times. These figures do not include time spent on education, drills, or equipment maintenance.

The ambulance corps will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a parade on Saturday. More than 1,000 participants and spectators are expected to participate and show ambulance workers their support. I wish them continued success in their next 50 years.

RECOGNITION OF MAYOR ROBERT
PHINNEY AND POPULACE OF
SOUTH GLENS FALLS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, every day when I'm home I have the privilege of driving through one of the most appealing communities on my way to and from my house in Glens Falls and main district office in Saratoga.